

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of:	Atty. Docket No.: 001701.00242
<b>Koji HOSONO et al.</b>	
Serial No.: Continuation of 10/315,050, filed December 10, 2002	Group Art Unit: Unknown
Filed: Herewith	Examiner: Unknown
For: FAIL NUMBER DETECTING CIRCUIT OF FLASH MEMORY	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with Applicants' duty of disclosure, the following information is submitted for consideration by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-captioned application. The information is identified on the attached PTO-1449 form.

This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earliest filing date of prior U.S. patent application serial no. 10/315,050, filed December 10, 2002 and 09/985,017, filed November 1, 2001. The documents identified on the attached PTO 1449 form were submitted to and/or cited by the Office in a prior application and, therefore, copies are not required to be provided in this application. (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d)).

Applicants do not waive any right to take appropriate action to establish patentability over the listed documents should they be applied as references against the claims of the present application.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner fully consider each of the documents, initial the enclosed Form PTO-1449 in the appropriate place to indicate that the document has been

considered, and return a copy of the initialed form to the undersigned in accordance with MPEP Section 609.

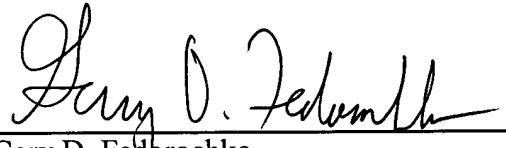
Applicants believe that no fee is necessary pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). However, if a fee is due, the Office is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: October 1, 2003

By:

  
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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	TBA
Sheet	1	of	1	Filing Date	Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Koji HOSONO et al.
				Group Art Unit	Unknown
				Examiner Name	Unknown
				Attorney Docket Number	001701.00242

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		5,258,958		Iwahashi et al.	11-1993
		5,610,859		Nakamura et al.	03-11-1997
		5,761,122		Nakamura et al.	06-02-1998
		5,909,399		Tanaka et al.	06-1999
		6,064,603		Naganawa	05-2000
		6,134,140		Tanaka et al.	10-17-2000
		6,208,560		Tanaka et al.	03-27-2001
		6,373,748		Ikehashi et al.	04-2002
		6,430,090		Homma	06-2002
		5,963,462		Engh et al.	10-1999
		6,275,417	B1	Lee et al.	08-2001
		6,507,518	B2	Hosono et al.	01-2003

<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		JP	7-57482	Tanaka et al.	03-03-1995
		JP	7-307098	Nakamura et al.	11-21-1995
		JP	11-176175	Shirota et al.	07-02-1999

<b>OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T <sup>2</sup>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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<sup>1</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.